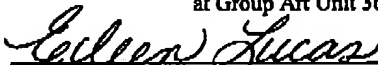


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/713,296
Filing Date: November 16, 2000
Inventor (first named): Perrault
Group Art Unit: 3637
Examiner Name: Phi Dieu N. Tran
Attorney Docket No.: 45197.2

Certificate of Transmision Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this document is being facsimile transmitted on this date July 16, 2002 to
FAX No. 703-872-9316 to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Attention: Examiner Phi Dieu Tran A.
at Group Art Unit 3637 in Arlington, VA 22202


EILEEN LUCAS

DATED: July 16, 2002.

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 04/23/2002

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:


This is in response to the Office Action mailed April 23, 2002 and is within the 3 month period for reply.

Please enter the amendments below and consider the remarks which follow.

AMENDMENT

In the Description:

Please add the following paragraph to page 2, line 17:

 "A conventional roof truss comprises a top chord, a bottom chord and at least two intermediate members which form triangular shapes in combination with either the bottom chord or the top chord."

Please amend page 7, line 17 as follows:

a3

..."hangers (18) attached with wood fasteners (20). The hangers (18) may be metal or nonmetal,...".

Please amend page 8, lines 6-7 as follows:

a3

..."fasteners (20) attaching the hangers (18) to the bottom chord (12) or the bottom plate (14) can be removed, making it simple to remove the hangers (18)."

Please amend page 8, line 10 as follows:

a4

..."by cutting or breaking the connectors (18) (16). For example, the connectors (18) (16) may be made..."

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

a5

"1. An improved roof truss comprising a bottom chord, a top chord and at least two intermediate members creating a triangular shape with one of the top or bottom chords, wherein the improvement comprises:

- a) a bottom plate disposed beneath the bottom chord ~~roof truss~~; and
- b) means for attaching the bottom plate to the bottom chord ~~roof truss~~ which allows separation of the bottom plate from the bottom chord ~~roof truss~~ when the bottom plate is attached to an interior partition wall and the roof truss rises relative to the interior partition wall.